

66. (Unchanged) The system of claim 62 further comprising means for displaying a full size image of the selected object, means for displaying one or more audio clips associated with the selected object, and means for playing the audio clip.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application. Claims 1, 11 and 21 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled. Thus, claims 1-24 and 26-66 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 11, 12, 16-18, 21, 23, 24, 26-30, 32-39 and 42-66 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,097,389 issued to Morris, et al. (*Morris*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,166,735 issued to Dom, et al. (*Dom*).

Claim 11 recites the following:

- displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects ordered automatically in chronological order and grouped by media objects relating to one another;
- recording a narration to be associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;
- displaying a second list of reduced visual representations of the plurality of media objects ordered manually, the second list having the narration associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;
- navigating among the reduced visual representations; and
- displaying the plurality of media objects.

Thus, Applicants claim recording a narration associated with at least one reduced visual representation in a second, manually ordered, list. Claim 1 is a means-plus-function claims that similarly recites a narration associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations. Claim 21 is a system claim that recites recording of narrations.

Morris teaches a digital picture album having a thumbnail region and an album page region for a selected album. See Figure 5. The thumbnail region displays thumbnails of all of the pictures in a picture database when a shoebox icon is selected. See col. 7, lines 1-5; Figure 12B; col. 13, lines 12-15; Figure 12C, col. 14, lines 18-20; Figure 12E, col. 14, lines 36-38. The order of the pictures in the list may be changed by the user by dragging and dropping the thumbnails in the thumbnail region. See col. 6, lines 2-10. However, *Morris* does not disclose a narration associated with any of the thumbnail images.

Specifically, *Morris* discloses that captions can be provided for a thumbnail image. See col. 5, lines 60-61. Captions are written or textual annotations while narrations are audible annotations. Therefore, *Morris* alone does not teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claims 1, 11 and 21.

Dom discloses a video story board for supporting video browsing. See abstract. *Dom* discloses arranging still images from a video sequence in a chronological order. See col. 5, lines 26-32. *Dom* does not teach or suggest narrations associated with the still images. In fact, *Dom* teaches away from narrations because *Dom* discloses:

Audio is conveniently omitted.

See col. 10, line 43 (emphasis added). *Dom* does disclose that audio can be added as an additional ***downloaded*** track. However, these are not recorded narrations. Therefore, no combination of *Morris* and *Dom* can teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claims 1, 11 and 21.

Claims 2 and 6-8 depend from claim 1. Claims 12 and 16-18 depend from claim 11. Claims 23, 24, 26-30, 32-37 and 56-61 depend from claim 21. Because dependent

claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 2, 6-8, 12, 16-18, 23, 24, 26-30 and 32-37 are not rendered obvious by *Morris* and *Dom* for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claim 38 recites:

selecting a plurality of objects, the selected objects coming from a plurality of stories displayed on a first track having one or more image objects ordered chronologically and displayed thereon or a second track containing one or more previously generated stories of one or more image objects stored as a story, the selected objects placed in a third track to form a story;
recording a narration for each selected object and associating the narration with the selected object;
saving the authored story in the second track; and
playing the story.

Thus, Applicants claim recording a narration for selected objects. Claims 39 and 42-55 depend from claim 38. Claim 62 is a means-plus-function claim that similarly recites recording a narration. Claims 63-66 depend from claim 62.

As discussed above, no combination of *Morris* and *Dom* teaches or suggests recording a narration for an image object. Therefore, no combination of *Morris* and *Dom* can teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claims 38, 39, 42-55 and 62-66.

Claims 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 31, 40 and 41 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Morris* in view of *Dom* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,173 issued to Ubillos (*Ubillos*).

Ubillos is cited to teach recording audio narrations. Applicants agree with the Examiner that *Ubillos* does not explicitly disclose recording audio narrations for use with images. As mentioned above, *Morris* and *Dom* teach away from recording audio narrations. Therefore, the cited references (*Morris*, *Dom* and *Ubillos*) fail to provide motivation for the combination and modifications suggested in the Final Office Action.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants request that the rejection of claims 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13,

14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 31, 40 and 41 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Morris* in view of *Dom* and further in view of *Ubillos* be withdrawn.

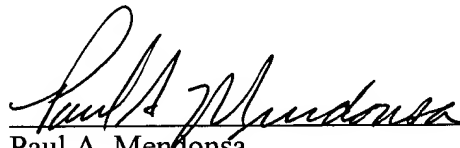
Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1-24 and 26-66 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Date: Dec 10, 2002


Paul A. Mendonsa
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 42,879

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 684-6200

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

10 DECEMBER 2002
Date of Deposit

DEBORAH L. HIGHAM
Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

9011-0 12/10/02
Signature Date

MARKED VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) A apparatus comprising:

means for displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects ordered automatically in chronological order and grouped by media objects relating to one another;

means for recording a narration to be associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

means for displaying a second list of reduced visual representations of the plurality of media objects ordered manually, the second list having a narration associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

means for navigating among the reduced visual representations; and

means for displaying the plurality of media objects.

11. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:

displaying a first list of reduced visual representations of a plurality of media objects ordered automatically in chronological order and grouped by media objects relating to one another;

recording a narration to be associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

displaying a second list of reduced visual representations of the plurality of media objects ordered manually, the second list having the narration associated with at least one of the reduced visual representations;

navigating among the reduced visual representations; and

displaying the plurality of media objects.

21. (Twice Amended) A system comprising
a storage device having a plurality of stories, each story comprising of a plurality
of objects; and

a processor in communication with the storage device, the processor:

display a first story track for a plurality of imported stories which have objects
automatically ordered in chronological order,

record a narration to be associated with at least one of the reduced visual
representations;

display a second story track for a plurality of authored stories including the
recorded narration,

display a full size image of a selected object in the story,

process navigation input from a user, the navigation input comprising moving a
track selection from one story track to another story track, moving an object selection
from one object to another object, and

process operational input from the user, the operation input comprising playing
the story, stopping recording or the playing, and saving the story.